Estrada is GMA's last card vs Aquino–Maceda



By Norman Bordadora and Leila B. Salaverria

SUPPORTING FORMER President Joseph "Erap" Estrada may be the only remaining option for the Arroyo administration if it wants to

ESTRADA / A11

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Balanced News, Fearless Views
Wednesday, May 5, 2010 ★★ 11 sections / Vol. 25 / No. 146 P18

Power revolt brewing over Meralco bills

By Abigail L. Ho

CARLO OPLE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF Internet and social media marketing firm Catalyst Inc., did not know what hit him.

As if the scorching summer heat and the occasional brownouts were not enough, his power bill for April almost doubled even when he consumed around the same amount of electricity as in the previous billing month.

POWER / A11

Voting machines fail

'We're playing with fire here'

By Kristine L. Alave

AN ENRAGED FORMER ENERGY Secretary Angelo Reyes yesterday gate-crashed a Commission on Elections (Comelec) press briefing and demanded the heads of those responsible for technical foul-ups in a mock election in Taguig City, where votes for his son were not counted.

"This is not acceptable! We are playing with fire here," Reyes told the commissioners. "Somebody must be responsible for this and we demand that the Comelec do an exhaustive investigation. People responsible in this anomaly must be hanged!"

Reyes' dramatic outburst reflected the sense of outrage stirred up in various circles by technical glitches in voting tally machines that marred Monday's election trial runs in Metro Manila and in the provinces, just a week before the country's first automated national polls.

An election lacking in credibility could lead to a dizzying

WE'RE / A6



TESTING, TESTING A sample ballot is inserted in a precinct count optical scan (PCOS) machine during Monday's mock election to test the new computerized system of voting held at Pembo Elementary School in Makati City.

76,000 memory cards to be replaced

By Kristine L. Alave, Tarra Quismundo and Michael Lim Ubac

NOW, IT CAN BE TOLD officially. The tests produced weird results.

This sent embarrassed officials of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) and its partner, Smartmatic-TIM, scrambling to save the historic computerized balloting on May 10 by recalling 76,000 compact flash (CF) cards that are in the heart of the counting machines.

"We didn't expect this to come out, but we are responding on time," Cesar Flores, spokesperson for Smartmatic-TIM, at a nationally televised news conference said.

Flores blamed the glitches, which first surfaced in two precinct count optical scan (PCOS) machines last month at the start of advance overseas voting in Hong Kong, on "human error."

"We are taking all measures to remedy this," Flores said, just five days before the May 10 national and local elections.

"We are optimistic that there will be no failure of elections," said Commissioner Rene Sarmiento. "We are taking all measures to remedy this."

"I will not be honest if I will say that my confidence has not been diminished because, as I

VOTING / A6

Postpone elections, GMA lawyer urges

By Christine O. Avendaño

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO's election lawyer yesterday sought the postponement of the May 10 polls for 15 days "as the only remedy to prevent a failure of elections" and to give poll officials enough time to prepare for manual elections.

Lawyer Romulo Macalintal said the Omnibus Election Code allows for the Commission on Elections (Comelec) en banc to reset the polls "based on serious cause like the apparent failure of the precinct count optical scan (PCOS) machines to properly and correctly function."

"Under the present situation, a 15-day postponement would be reasonable to give time for the Comelec to print additional

POSTPONE / A12

10K machines need satellite links

By Kristine L. Alave

NEARLY 4,700 POLLING CENters in the country with some 10,000 voting machines will have to use a satellite connection to transmit tallies because they have no mobile network coverage, said a document from the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

These areas have about 5 million registered voters.

A master list of precinct count optical scan (PCOS) machines obtained by the Inquirer shows that 4,680 polling centers have no cell phone signal from Globe, Smart and Sun.

The rest of the precincts in the country are covered by one or two of the telecommunication networks, the list said.

The affected polling centers have about 10,000 PCOS machines.

10K MACHINES / A6

Calls for manual count mount but Comelec says no

WIDESPREAD MISREADING of ballots in the testing of counting machines for Monday's automated polls has revived calls from national and local candidates for a full manual count to ensure that no massive electronic rigging will occur on Election Day.

The Commission on Elections (Comelec), however, quickly thumbed down the suggestion, saying it was confident that computerized balloting and canvassing will push through despite the technical setback of the Precinct Count Optical Scan (PCOS) machines.

"We are confident that failure of election is not a problem," said Commissioner Rene Sarmiento.

But Liberal Party standard-bearer Sen. Benigno Aquino III wanted a firm assurance from the Comelec that it "will do everything within the bounds of the law" to ensure that automated elections would push through or else prepare for a manual count "as mandated by law."

In a statement, Aquino said the misreading of the PCOS machines belied the poll agency's claim that it is "ready."

"The Comelec denied our proposed parallel manual count for national and selected local

CALLS / A12

THE ONE, THE ONLY

NICANOR P. PERLAS: New governance goes beyond gov't



PRESIDENTIAL candidate Nicanor Perlas speaks at the "Sulucan 2010" presidential forum organized by Pastor Apollo Quiboloy in Davao City on March 9.

(Editor's Note: The presidential profiles will be running in no particular order but as the stories come in from our reporters in the field.)

By DJ Yap

(Sixth of a series)

"MY FIRST LADY IS THE PHILIPPINES, *bueng Bayan*," independent presidential candidate Nicanor Jesus Perlas III wrote on his Twitter account, "nobleoffrom," on April 10.

But Perlas, who is separated from his American wife, did not type the "status update" himself. He had only relayed the message in a staffer via text message.

These days, Perlas hardly gets any time on the Internet like he used to, busy as he is traipsing across the country to woo voters in a no-frills campaign that runs on a budget of P4 million. The last time he checked his e-mail was "four to six weeks ago."

But some habits are hard to break, even for the 60-year-old Perlas, a health buff who doesn't smoke, drink and eat red meat.

He still tries to get at least five hours of sleep despite a hectic schedule and even if it means dozing off in the airport, his car or wherever his itinerary brings him. "I make sure I get no less than five hours of sleep," he said, although he admitted that this was getting harder and harder to keep up.

For breakfast, he gets something light and fruity like one Friday morning, when he started his day with a yogurt banana shake with a funny-sounding coconut juice drink on the side.

His main source of protein is fish. "No pork, beef or chicken for me," he said.

When in the city, he stays in the Ortigas flat of his 28-year-old son Christopher Michael, a business management student at De La Salle University. Two years ago, he parted ways "by mutual, respectful and friendly

NICANOR / A11



NICANOR Perlas, an independent running on an environmental and reformist platform, reaches out to voters during a visit to the Agdao Public Market in Davao City.

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

SC asked to void Bangit appointment

FORMER OMBUDSMAN SIMEON Marcelo has asked the Supreme Court to invalidate the alleged "midnight appointment" of Armed Forces Chief Gen. Delfin Bangit as well as those of two other top military officials.

Dona Z. Pazzibugan

Soldiers fan out to Metro poll hotspots

THE ARMED FORCES HAS started fielding more than 2,300 soldiers in Metro Manila even as it declared 10 cities in the capital region as election "hotspots."

Three battalions

Send-off ceremony

Noynoy winds up provincial sorties

Erap fails to win support of FPJ widow Susan Roces

[illegible]



ROCES

From SC, 'comfort women' get no comfort

[illegible]

Mudslinging likely to step up in final stretch

[illegible]

Dick fails to get TRO vs pollsters

Gibo won't slide to VP

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Palace: GMA in no hurry to name CJ

By Christine O. Avendaño
and Dona Z. Pazzibugan



[illegible]

Proper time

[illegible]

No problem

[illegible]

Beyond 6 years

[illegible]

Motion for reconsideration

[illegible]

Voting machines fail

Cards to be replaced

Automated cheating?

'It will be done'

Who's to blame?

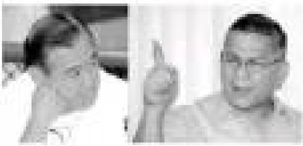
New round of tests

Problem can be fixed

'We're playing with fire here'



WHAT NOW?



GIVING THEM THE FINGER

Let them hang together

'Let's be sober'

Opposition worried

Confidence shattered

Hold departure order

Investors wary

10K machines need satellite links

Cavite, Davao City

Abra, Maguindanao, Sulu

Guard against fraud

Impact on presidential race



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'It makes you mad'

Power revolt brewing

Protest movement on Facebook

Shocked

Meralco's explanation

Highest in history

Zaldy Ampatuan seeks hospital detention

By Julie M. Aurelio

ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE Ampatuan clan is seeking hospital detention.

Suspended Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan has asked the Quezon City court hearing the multiple murder case against his family to allow him to enter a hospital to undergo medical tests.

Saying his health had deteriorated since his detention pending the Maguindanao massacre trial, Ampatuan's lawyers also sought his transfer to a "capable medical facility" should the results of his check-up warrant it.

"It is [illegible] examination be done immediately in order to forestall any undesirable consequence attendant to any grave and serious illness [illegible], in the event that there is a need to confine Zaldy in a medical institution," read Ampatuan's urgent motion for physical examination.

The motion was filed on Friday by lawyer Redemberto Villanueva with Judge Jocelyn Solis-Reyes of QC Regional Trial Court Branch 221.

Ampatuan's lawyers cited the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in asking that he be allowed to be examined by a doctor.

"Due to the continued detention of the accused since November 2009, his physical health has deteriorated considerably," the plea said.

The motion noted that Ampatuan was suffering from shortness of breath, significant weight loss, insomnia, body pains and depression in the Metro Manila District Jail's Quezon City Jail Annex at Camp Bagong Diwa in Taguig City.

Ampatuan, along with his brother Andal Jr. and other members of their clan, is facing multiple murder charges in the death of 57 people on Nov. 23, 2009 in Ampatuan, Maguindanao.

Two weeks ago, acting Justice Secretary Alberto Agra created a furor when he dropped Zaldy and an uncle, Akmad Ampatuan, from the murder charges that other clan members and their followers are facing for the massacre of 57 people in Ampatuan, Maguindanao, on Nov. 23, 2009.

State prosecutors filed a motion for reconsideration of Agra's order, thus Zaldy and Akmad remain in detention.

The Ampatuans and their followers were recently transferred to the QCJA from various jails in Mindanao after the court ruled the murder trial should be held in the Taguig jail compound to minimize security risks.

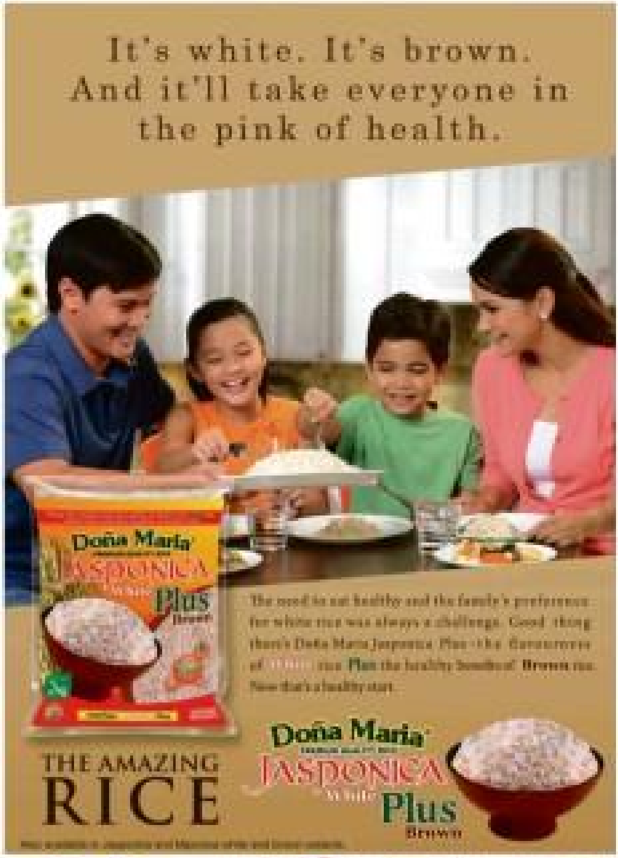
Former Maguindanao Gov. Andal Ampatuan Sr., Zaldy's father and another suspect in the massacre, was held under hospital arrest at a military camp in Davao City prior to his transfer to the QCJA.



Postpone elections, GMA lawyer urges



Calls for manual count mount but Comelec says no





BPA/P
Business Processing Association PHILIPPINES

Outsourcing Industry on Track for $9 Billion in Exports and Half a Million Employed in 2010

BPA/P thanks key contributors to ROADMAP 2010

In early 2007, the Business Processing Association of the Philippines (BPA/P) began to develop a comprehensive growth plan for the country's Information Technology – Business Process Outsourcing (IT-BPO) industry: ROADMAP 2010. We formulated this plan with our member associations, stakeholders, key government entities and McKinsey & Co., to ensure the continued growth of our industry, which began in earnest in 2000. ROADMAP 2010 has four important themes:

Accelerate Talent Development. [illegible]

Enhance Business Environment. [illegible]

Launch Next Wave Cities™. [illegible]

Hire Team 2010. [illegible]

[illegible]

ROADMAP 2010 would not have come into being without the hard work of our member companies, member associations, and many individuals and organizations.

We would like to take this occasion to thank all of them, and in particular, to give a very special thank you to our Sponsors who funded and helped to shape ROADMAP 2010, and four individuals who have made important contributions to our industry and have been awarded our Outstanding Achievement Award.

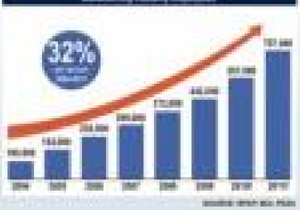
We look forward to working together for another decade of revenue growth and job creation!



Export Revenues Growing 34% Per Annum



Employment Revenues Growing 32% Per Annum



Our Outstanding Achievement Awardees

We would like to thank these individuals who have made critical contributions to the growth of the IT-BPO industry, and the development and implementation of ROADMAP 2010. We honor each of them with an Outstanding Achievement Award.

Senator Mar Roxas



[illegible]

Ernest Cu, formerly CEO of SPi Technologies and now CEO of Globe Telecom



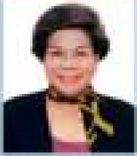
[illegible]

Christopher Beshouri, Managing Director Philippines, McKinsey & Co.



[illegible]

Director General Lilia B. De Lima, Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA)



[illegible]

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We would like to thank our major sponsors whose generous support made ROADMAP 2010 and Team 2010 possible.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

A prelate's opinion

EDITORIAL

[illegible]



Cardinal Rosales is no Cardinal Sin

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

[illegible]

Differences

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Revolution-baiting

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

Interesting times (2)

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

For your consideration

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

'Dagdag-bawas' in 1897

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

What our country needs most: hope, integrity and trust

LETTERS

Sex for pleasure means using person as object

Double deductions unrefunded, unexplained

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Across the NATION

Local races spawn more murders, attacks

Cavite LP bet's backers beaten up; charges filed

LOCAL ELECTION RACES ARE generating more cases of violence and murders as the actual voting draws near on May 10.

Daughter shot

More attacks

Other reactions

Drug links

Election issue

NEWSBRIEFS

ISABELA

3 dead in attack

CAMPAIGN

JDVIII gets backing

QUEZON

Cop shot dead in cockpit

TACLOBAN CITY

1,000 troops vote

NORTH COTABATO

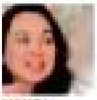
Roadmap to peace

An Open Letter



Teodoro a no-show in North Samar rally

Batangas bet's widow backs Loren



LEGARDA



SANCHEZ



Rebel priest: Armed revolt, not elections



MEMBERS of an underground youth group stage a lightning rally in Manila in celebration of the 24th anniversary of the New People's Army in 2001.

NPA links

Anakpawis's denial

TV journalist campaigns, amazed by voter warmth

JDV also fears failure of polls

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Why private armies thrive in Abra



Marcos burial confronts presidential candidates

Tobacco prices in Ilocos



SINGSON

Hometown Issue

Nicanor Perlas: New governance ...

From page A1

agreement" with his wife Kathryn Carpenter, a teacher.

"I'm not daring," Perlas said in a recent visit to the Inquirer office.

Perlas' son, who looks American and speaks with an American accent, recently started to campaign for him full time now that his classes at De La Salle had ended. Christopher also promotes his dad on Facebook, helps run his website and tries to recruit his schoolmates to the cause.

On his way to meetings with staff, presidential forums and campaign sorties within Metro Manila, Perlas drives a Honda City. "I usually drive alone. No bodyguards," he said.

On out-of-town trips, he brings only a photographer and one staff member, or none at all. He describes his campaign style as "decentralized." In most sorties, he does not bring his Manila staff to Cebu or Davao or Iloilo—or the other way around—as he has his own staff and volunteers there.

No labels, please

A first-time candidate, Perlas does not want to be boxed into the cut-out labels that typical politicians are known by. He is not a liberal and at the same time he is not conservative; he is neither rightist nor leftist nor centrist.

"I'm unpredictable," he said. "My friends in the Left have a hard time understanding me. My friends in the Right don't understand me at all," Perlas said with a laugh.

The only label he said he would accept is "ecosynthesist."

Perlas is advancing a kind of politics rarely seen in these parts—a politics of platform and issues, and in his case, one grounded on environmentalism, reform and a more participative civil society in government.

He hopes a simple, low-key campaign will help win him the presidency without the pomp and pageantry of the big-time. His performances in presidential debates have helped raise his profile among voters, but up to now Perlas remains at the bottom end of most political surveys.

In every other interview, he is asked: does he honestly believe he can win? His answer has been a consistent yes.

Perlas said his campaign had not relied on celebrities and the usual song-and-dance routines, but he would instead opt to simply, sincerely introduce himself to voters from house to house, street to street, in public markets and town plazas, around the country.

Antinuclear power

Raised in an upper class family, Perlas was born on Jan. 10, 1950, in Manila to the late Jesus C. Perlas Sr. and Annunciacion M. Planas.

He finished his elementary and high school education at Ateneo de Manila University, and earned his agriculture degree, major in agronomy, at Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City in 1972.

"I sacrificed nuclear physics for agriculture, because I realized I wanted to help the 80 percent of Filipinos who were living in poverty at the time," Perlas said.

He pursued his master's studies in botany (environmental sciences) at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños, Laguna. But he was forced to abandon it in 1976 and went into exile for his opposition to the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant (BNPP) under the Ferdinand Marcos dictatorship.

"I really did not want to leave," he said. "But my family told me not to return because the military under Marcos was watching me."

In the United States, Perlas continued his anti-BNPP work. He gathered the signatures of 15,000 people opposed to the project and presented their sentiments to the US Senate. In 1987, he returned to the country after the fall of the Marcos dictatorship.

He served as consultant of the Presidential Commission on the Philippine Nuclear Power Plant and of the Philippine Council of Sustainable Development during the Aquino and Ramos administrations, respectively.

Alternative Nobel Prize

He was a member of the steering committee of Kompil II, a civil society umbrella group that helped oust President Joseph Estrada in 2001. He also served as cofounder and spokesperson of Pagasa 1.0, which was among the groups that called for Ms Arroyo's resignation at the height of the "Hello Garci" election fraud scandal in 2005.

In 2003, Perlas received Sweden's Right Livelihood Award, considered the Alternative Nobel Prize, for his "outstanding efforts in educating civil society on the effects of corporate globalization, and how alternatives to it can be implemented."

In 1994, he received the Global 500 Award from the United Nations Environmental Program and the Outstanding Filipino Award from the Philippine Jaycees and the Insular Life Assurance Co. for his campaign against the use of poisonous pesticides by Filipino farmers, which led to the banning of 32 harmful pesticide formulations in the country.

Civil society secretary

Perlas said one of the first things that he will create once elected president is a new Cabinet position on civil society affairs.

"For me this is important because we are going to introduce a new concept of governance that goes beyond just government," Perlas said at a recent debate organized by the Inquirer.

In this new concept, he said he would shift the balance of power in Philippine politics from the usual triumvirate of executive, legislative and judiciary to government, business and civil society.

"This is important because we can't have genuine democracy if we don't empower citizens to participate in shaping the destiny of this nation," he said.

Philippine Agenda 21

"The traditional powers of the state, which are executive, legislative and judicial, are no longer working. The new balance of powers should now go to civil society as cultural power, the state as political power, and business as economic power," he said.

Perlas first used that "societal three-folding" framework in crafting the Philippine Agenda 21, a blueprint for sustainable development, during the term of President Fidel Ramos.

It was processed and adopted during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in 1996, and has been adopted by the United Nations as a strategy in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

This, according to Perlas, is the achievement he is proudest of.

Getting to know you

He may not be from a poor background, but Perlas said his campaign would focus more on the poor than those belonging to the middle and upper classes.

"In fact, I was surprised that they are more receptive to my campaign than the AB crowd," he said. "The AB crowd has already written me off. They'd say I'll never win because of the surveys and so on," Perlas said.

"But when I go to the poor communities, I'm surprised that they would recognize me. They would actually listen to me and be receptive to my ideas."

This, he admitted, might not necessarily translate to votes, but "the important thing is they're willing to get to know who Nicanor Perlas is."

Perlas' hobbies include reading books on philosophy, history, farming and health, listening to music—classical, pop and even rap—and watching DVD movies with his son. His favorite films are "Chariots of Fire," "Brother Sun, Sister Moon," "The Matrix" and "Ni."

Does he watch pirated movies? "No, I'm not local," he admitted.

Agricultural trailblazer

Perlas, a disciple of organic vegetarian food, is president of the Center for Alternative Development Initiatives, a trailblazer in the agricultural field, which "set in motion, organic farming in an otherwise chemical-intensive agricultural system."

He has written over 500 articles and monographs on a variety of subjects, as well as a best-selling book, "Shaping Globalization: Civil Society, Cultural Power and Threefolding," which, according to his website, has been translated in over nine languages.

One of his favorite quotations is by American anthropologist Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever did."

Estrada GMA's last card vs Aquino–Maceda

From page A1



ERNESTO MACEDA

prevent Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III from winning next week's presidential elections, according to Estrada's campaign manager.

"If they don't like Noynoy to win, whether they talk to us or not, it's normal or it's just not gaining. If they swing their support to us is to try to block the victory of Noynoy," former Sen. Ernesto Maceda told reporters on Monday.

"That's how we will overtake (Noynoy) if and when all of those people who don't like Noynoy and who feel that Lakas-Kampi (candidate Gilberto) Teodoro or (Nacionalista Party candidate Sen. Manuel) Villar or (Sen. Richard) Gordon have no chance of winning," Maceda added.

Maceda praised the scenario at the Commission on Elections (Comelec) yesterday ruled with finality that Estrada—who was ousted in 2001, convicted of plunder in 2007 and then granted presidential pardon that same year—could seek reelection.

The Comelec upheld its Jan. 20 ruling and dismissed the motion for reconsideration filed by lawyer Evilio Pormento, who had sought Estrada's disqualification.

The poll body maintained that Estrada, 73, was not covered by the constitutional ban on the reelection of chief executives because he was not a sitting president.

Pormento failed to present any new argument that would make body change its mind, the Comelec said yesterday.

An elated Estrada said the Comelec decision would "enhance my winning power" and improve chances of winning.

'People can think again'

Those who want for other candidates in the past presidential surveys may now reconsider their choices, Estrada said.

"The black propaganda against me (was) that I will be disqualified," Estrada added. "People can think again."

Maceda also presented the results of a survey conducted from April 23 to 25 showing Estrada already at only around with 28 percent before Aquino's 35 percent, with Villar falling to third with 17 percent.

Teodoro landed fourth with 9 percent in the survey commissioned by Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, a reelectionist under Estrada's party Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino.

In the latest Pulse Asia survey conducted also from April 23 to 25, Aquino also led the pack with 39 percent, while Estrada and Villar tied for second place at 20 percent.

"I think their only option is to swing their support to us to block the victory of Noynoy," Maceda said.

Last person

But Estrada answered no when asked if there had been feelers from the Arroyo administration for a possible alliance in the runup to the May 10 elections.

"I believe that I'd be the last person they'd talk to. Because, you know, they grabbed power from me and then they put me behind bars," Estrada said.

The former leader said he didn't have any debt of gratitude to the administration even with the pardon granted by Ms Arroyo.

"She's the one who has a debt of gratitude. She was the one who set her President. She (even did so for (almost)) 10 years," Estrada said.

Estrada had spent the most part of his campaign projecting himself as the only true opposition candidate.





SPORTS
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa



Gin Kings tackle slumping Express today

Lady Eagles gain V-League semis



Kelly soon a Texter

Sports heroes' foundation eyed

Angping: New chair must continue programs



ANGPING

SPORTSWATCH

World Slasher expects record field

Makati Coliseum hosts 'Bullang'

SJC derby gets going

Eagles, Knights collide; RP Youth faces UE

PBL-Liga merger slates rookie draft

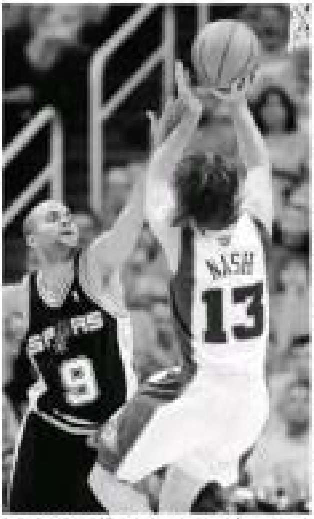


MANIGO

Sugar-Money fight fails to excite Pacman

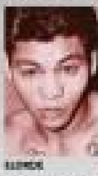
IN HUDDLE





Hot Celtics ruin James' evening

First RP Sports Hall of Fame induction today



ELORDE

Pacquiao: I'll finish Floyd off

By Roy Luarca



PACQUIAO

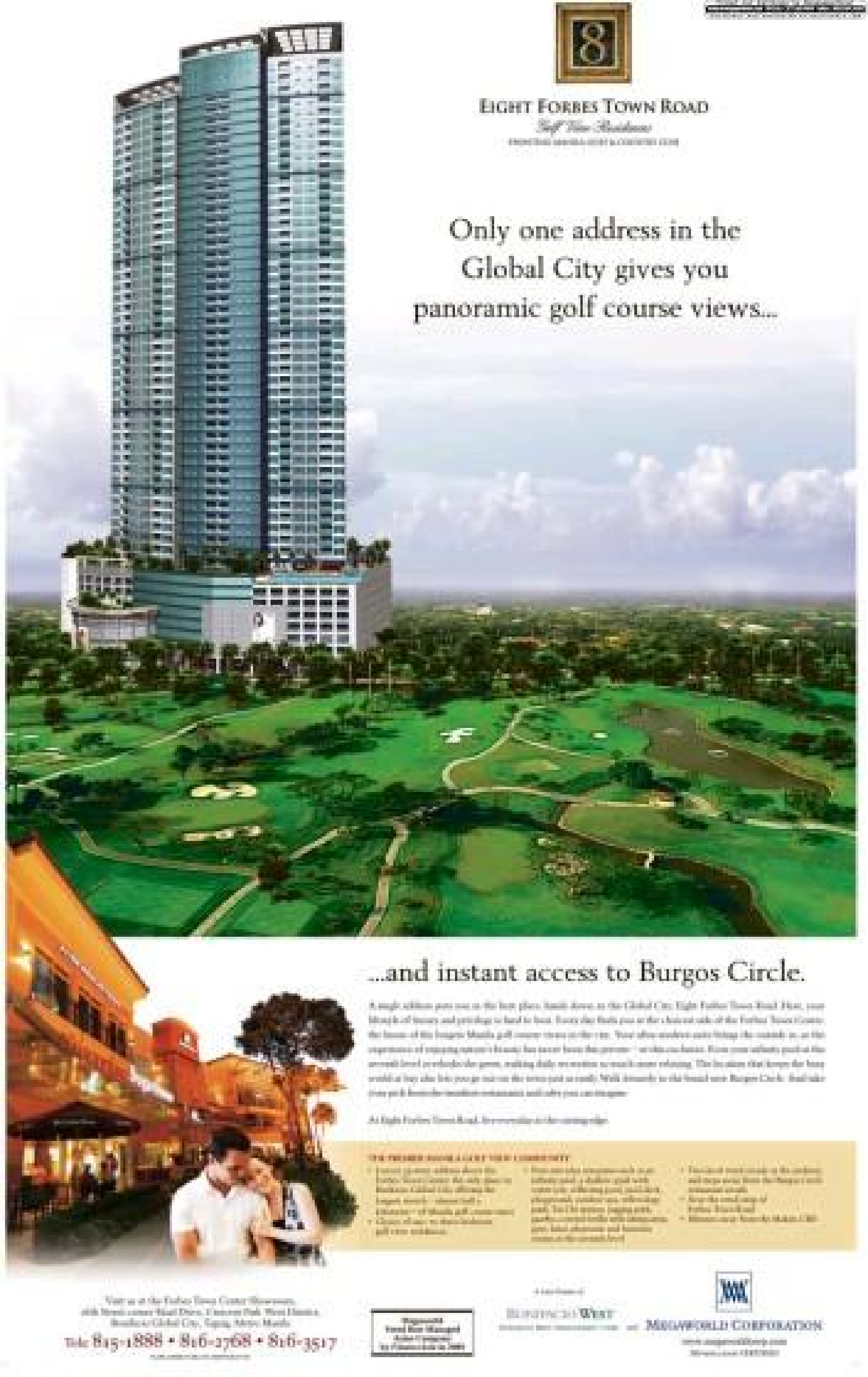
RTU softbelles gain Nat'l Open semis

Villamor logs WGAP win

SPORTSWATCH

S'woods golf tees off

Juntaphil tilt starts


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Aplus METRO

UP BOARD ELECTION CONTROVERSY

QC court junks ex-PGH exec's petition for TRO

A QUEZON CITY JUDGE HAS DENIED A PETITION FOR THE issuance of a temporary restraining order against the University of the Philippines (UP), its Board of Regents (BOR) and Philippine General Hospital (PGH) director Dr. Rolando Domingo, saying the petitioner failed to prove that the hospital's operations were disturbed by his removal from his post.

"The denial of the issuance of a TRO does not in any way preclude petitioner from proving the grounds relied upon for the issuance of a writ of preliminary injunction," the judge said.

Northern, eastern police all set for May 10 polls

Cops arrest man, 2 sons for killing neighbor in QC

2 cars stolen within hours of each other in same area

Bag left on Taft Avenue causes bomb scare, heavy traffic

METROBRIEFS

Fire leaves 20 families homeless in Pasay

NBI solves murder of Chinese trader

QC councilor says he's definitely running



LENDING A HELPING HAND

2 cops, civilian face raps over illegal salary loan

Northern, eastern ...

Iran hogs limelight at nuke meet

Protesters take strike to Acropolis

WorldBriefs

Red Shirts consider PM's poll plan

Nokor's Kim to meet China leaders

Food, fuel run short in Katmandu

China schools reopen under heavy guard

Malaysia TV producer quits over censorship

Jordan River drying up

Gulf Coast watches path of oil spill

Irish airports reopen as ash threat fades

World's oldest person dies in Japan

US has 5,113 nuke warheads



The WORLD

Pakistani held in NY bomb try

NEW YORK—A PAKISTANI MAN BELIEVED TO BE THE DRIVER of a sports utility vehicle used as a car bomb in a failed terror attack on Times Square was taken into custody late Monday by FBI agents and local police detectives while trying to leave the country, US officials said.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] AP



BUSINESS

BTr marks rise in benchmark T-bill yield



Shares closed up

Officials reported mixed results in yesterday's auction

THE YIELD ON THE BENCHMARK 91-DAY TREASURY bill went up by 2 basis points to an average of 3.84 percent in yesterday's auction, which was also marked by mixed results.



Holcim mulls over hike in cement prices by July

Firm seen to take a beating due to power crisis in Mindanao

Reluctant suitors

Biz Buzz
By the staff

Suspended broker

Another induced shortage

Alaska drops Kellogg's

Desperately seeking Security

Shares closed up

BTr marks rise ...

Rise in bank branches noted

By Michelle V. Remo

MORE PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO gain access to banking services in 2009, compared to previous years, as the rate of increase in bank branches outpaced population growth, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said in its latest "Report on Regional Economic Developments."

The report shows that bank density ratios in 15 out of 17 regions of the country declined in 2009 from year-ago levels due to branch expansion by existing banks. The ratio measures the proportion of population in a region to the number of bank branches in the area.

As expected, the National Capital Region posted the lowest bank density ratio of one bank to 4,[illegible] by the end of 2009 from one to 4,[illegible] the previous year.

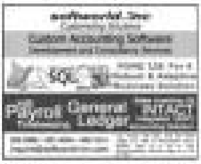
However, the bank density ratio in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) grew to [illegible] from [illegible]. There are only 24 banks in the ARMM by the end of 2009, unchanged from the end-2008 figure.

The other region where the bank density ratio increased was the Bicol Region (Region 5). The ratio grew from 12,[illegible] to 12,[illegible].

The BSP acknowledged that bank existence in the ARMM and [illegible]



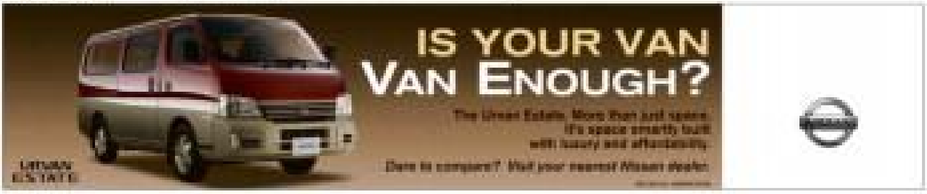














Jollibee buys another fast-food chain in China

Boosting overseas operations

Globe posts lower profit

Alaska aims to double sales in 5 yrs

UCPB posts Q1 profit of P576M

Philippine Stock Exchange

Currencies

DMCI, Marubeni bag deal to construct 22-km MRT7

Line to run from San Jose del Monte to North Ave.

Securities trading hits 5-yr high

Metro Pacific buys stake in major hospital

Shell puts refinery hub into operation

Greek worries linger, pressure global stock markets, euro

[illegible]



[illegible]

US economic outlook cautious even with increased spending

Hiring still weak, reports indicate

[illegible]

BP could face billions in oil-spill costs

[illegible]

Apple iPad reaches 1-M sales faster than iPhone

[illegible]

US auto industry on road to recovery but pace slows

[illegible]

Shell puts refinery hub into operation

[illegible]

Rise in bank ...

[illegible]

North Harbor: A disaster waiting to happen

[illegible]

BUSINESS

North Harbor: A disaster waiting to happen

Ravaged by time and tide, pre-war port now in the center of new storm



FEATURE

MOTORING



Benz Depth

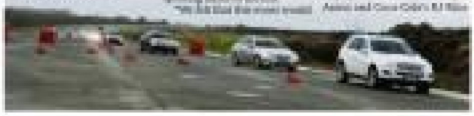
Professional cage stars get up close and personal with the sleek Mercedes cars













THE CRUZE: Chevrolet's new "4-door coupe sedan"



INSIDE, a Corvette-inspired dual cockpit design.



THE 141 HP, 1.8-liter all-aluminum gasoline engine

Chevrolet's Cruze challenge



AT THE BACK, a short rear deck and flush-mounted tail light clusters

ON THE ROAD



Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

Exotic

Loaded

Refined

Bel-Air stages auto show with advocacy

Text and photos by Alvin Uy



EUROPEAN roadsters including the Morgan Plus 8 are seldom seen in auto shows.



STUNT driver Russ Swift (right) with Eharlo Cojuangco and Alan Bonilla (left)



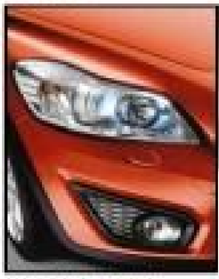
MINIS and Triumphs form part of the British contingent display.

Summer Promos

Shell offers discounts on purchase

Free Goodyear Racing travel items

Volvo C30's Powershift engine reduces fuel costs







Sorento Highline Cruiser offer poised to shake up SUV market



DOUBLE VICTORY

G for green and glamour

Beijing becomes mother of auto shows with 2,000 exhibitors

Text and photos by Abby Uy







China thinks Green



FOTON electric bus



MOTORING

Editor: Jong R. Arcano

Where do we go from here? The 'Driver' knows

The movers and shakers of the auto industry share their thoughts on the coming Presidential election

By Tessa R. Salazar

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW how a certain country's economy is doing? Economic experts will point you to the automotive industry. And why is the car industry a good indicator of the economy? In a nutshell, cars are the first on the selling block when people run out of money, and cars are the first off the shelf when people have money.

Now, six days before the all-important national and local elections, the elections to determine the top "Driver" (and "Co-Driver") of the Philippines, Inquirer Motoring has picked the brains of the auto industry's leading decision makers.

Right off the starting flag, the future 15th President of the Republic of the Philippines will have to run a seemingly impossible "slalom course" of industry challenges—from the perennial problems of auto smuggling, illegal importation, environmental concerns and responses to alternative fuels, car insurance, road safety and fuel supply management. The movers and shakers of the automotive industry will most certainly be watching with keen interest, genuine concern (and probably with some nervous humor) how Mr. (or Ms.) President will navigate them through the next six years.

So what do Erin J. Mabling Jr., Columbian Auto Car Corp. (CACC) president and COO, Grupo/n T. Fe, Chair of CAP's Motors Inc; Daniel M. Isla, president of Lexus Manila Inc; Fr. Steve Agudo, president and CEO of Hyundai Asia Resources Inc. and Rick Bales, president of Ford Group Philippines think of this all-important local and national elections?

With the exception of Rick Bales, who begged off some of the following questions for reasons of "neutrality," all the others gamely answered all the questions presented to them by Inquirer Motoring.

1 How would the election outcome affect the auto industry in general?

Mabling: The outcome of the coming election is very crucial to the automotive industry. Unlike other major Asean countries, nothing much has happened in our local automotive industry for the last 12 years or during the last two presidents and their administrations. In spite of the clear government policy to protect and develop the industry, smuggling and illegal importation of used vehicles continued unabated under the perceived protection of people close to the higher ups in the government and inside Malacañang itself. Of the total newly registered vehicles annually for the last five years (250,000-300,000 per year) the estimated sales of the legitimate automotive distributors and dealers is only 50-60 percent of the registered figure. This means that 40-50 percent of total registered vehicles annually are smuggled or illegally imported thru various ports of entry and/or the free ports (Subic, Clark, Freeport and so forth). With a legitimate sale of only 120,000-130,000 vehicles yearly, we have been left so much behind by our Asean neighbors like Thailand (1,000,000 per year), Malaysia (500,000 per year) and Indonesia (500,000 per year). Vietnam is fast catching up and will overtake us in the next two to three years.

The new President and his government will therefore determine whether the Philippine automotive industry will realize its true potential in the next six years by showing political will and an honest administration or follow the path of the past two governments and leave the industry in continued stagnation.

Fe: As long as we have peaceful elections and an orderly transition of power, the Philippine economy and the auto industry should benefit, at least initially. Continued improvement and further growth will then be dictated by how the new President handles the problems present in the country, e.g. poverty, ballooning budget deficits, corruption and many others.

Isla: I doubt if there will be immediate implications of the election results on the auto industry. What can affect business would be the policies that may be introduced and implemented by whoever will win. Offhand, the increase of money in circulation as a result of election spending will trigger activity in the auto industry—more vehicles had already been bought before and during the campaign period, so we can expect positive business during the post-election coming from those who have benefited from the election funds. Filipinos appear to have a predisposition to buy new vehicles as an indicator of extra funds.

Agudo: Definitely, the outcome of the election would impact significantly on the auto industry. A positive and peaceful election can help stimulate activity in the business environment. The industry should expect some policy changes and maintain good ones to enable a more positive environment for the development of the whole automotive industry based on fair and even playing field not only for manufacturers but for distributors, importers, dealers, retailers, assemblers, and parts manufacturers, as well.

Bales: Firstly, I am hopeful the election taking place May 10 will lead to a smooth and orderly transfer of power from the present administration to a new administration.

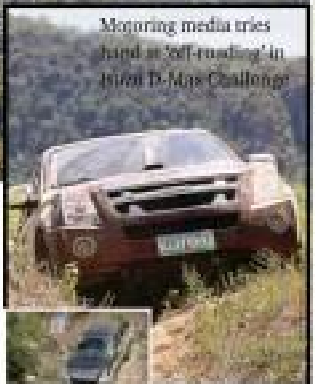
DRIVER B4-1

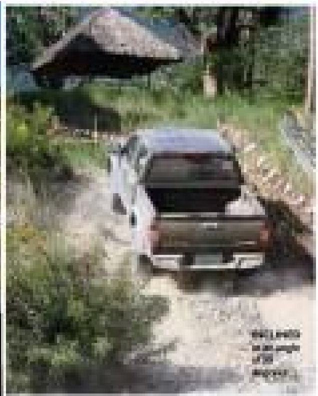




For better or 4WD

Motoring media tries hand at 'off-roading' in Isuzu D-Max Challenge





WATER crossing for a super-tough D-Max.



THE D-MAX can, can you?



CROSSING a bridge made up of logs

Globe, Subaru team up to save endangered Benguet forest





HIGH performance cars and mountain bikes do mix.

Challenging trail

Fresh water source

Environmental activism

Where do we go from here?...









Order of Lakandula for Toyota's Toyoda



Huge losses put future of Shanghai GP in the dark

LIFESTYLE *Parenting*



How to prepare your kids when relocating the family

If moving is stressful for us, it is probably doubly so for our toddlers















Grand gala dinner marks countdown to PAL's 70th anniversary in 2011







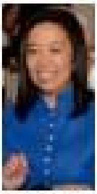


WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

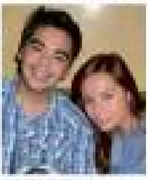




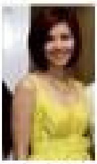






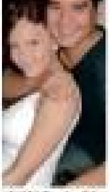




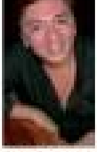


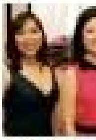














How to prepare your kids when relocating the family

Survey your stuff

Keep his favorites

Keep to a routine

Do your research

Hug them more

Fun activities for kids this summer



BIKING exposes children to the beauty of nature.

Child-friendly resort in Batangas



GOLDEN Sunset Village Resort & Spa in Calatagan, Batangas

Cignal and Sony, Full on HD:

Bring home the high definition experience

To bring the experience of HDTV entertainment into every Filipino home, Cignal HD is partnering with Sony as it brings its 2010 BRAVIA Collection into the country.

From April 30 to June 30, a single purchase of a **Sony full HD BRAVIA LCD TV*** will make customers eligible to buy a **Cignal HD Kit** for **PhP 1,500.00**. That gives you savings of up to **PhP 5,000.00**! This promotional Cignal HD kit comes with the satellite dish, set-up box and a Cignal card.

Imagine just how jaw-dropping your favourite blockbuster would be in its full HD glory courtesy of Cignal HD, and on the awe-inspiring LCD screen of a Sony BRAVIA TV. With Cignal HD's exciting roster of HD channels, including HBO HD, Star Movies HD, National Geographic HD, History HD, PlayHouse Disney, ESPN, Star Sports and Sony Entertainment Television, you have access to the most number of HD channels currently available in the Philippines.

Cignal HD is the country's first and only nationwide HD satellite provider. Capable of reaching virtually every place in the Philippines, from the highest highlands to the most remote coastal areas, Cignal HD promises to elevate the quality of TV viewing in the Philippines by maximizing the capabilities of your HDTV sets. No matter where you are in the country, only Cignal HD can deliver the amazingly real images and crisp sound of high definition into your home.

Bring home the complete Full on HD Experience with Cignal HD's world class satellite connection only on the best HD TV. With Sony's 2010 BRAVIA Collection, a premium line-up of full HDTV models with sophisticated Monolithic Design, smart eco-features, and the most advanced TV technology as of today, home entertainment will never be the same again. Motivated by Sony's corporate vision to make.believe, BRAVIA sets new standards of artistry and technological breakthroughs ensuring that your entertainment experience is nothing short of a dream come true.

Hurry to the nearest Sony Centers and authorized Sony dealers nationwide to find out how you can avail of the ultimate in HD entertainment. Enjoy the startling realism and clarity of true high definition with the Sony-Cignal HD Full On HD Experience today!



LIFESTYLE Home & Entertaining

Do-it-yourself

Cool party plates for light snacks



MAKE plates that have a special slot to hold your wine glass, leaving your other hand free for eating.

COOL OFF WITH FRIENDS and family by entertaining outdoors in the late afternoon to avoid the sweltering sun.



Materials

Cutter

Scissors

Glue gun

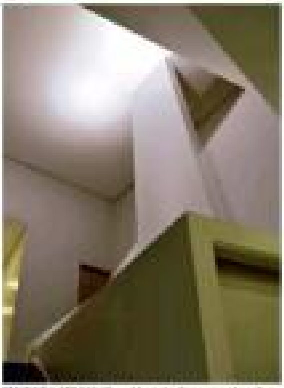
Little shells or any non-toxic trim



TRACE the bottom of the wine glass or goblet on one side of the plate, then cut out the pattern.



OUTDOOR LIVING.



STAIRWELL CEILING.

There's (chic) life after 'Ondoy'

By Marge C. Enriquez

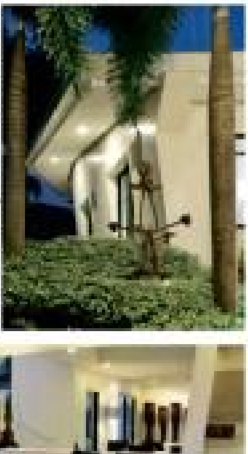
> The Asuncion house is modern tropical—'We wanted it to be unpredictable—a little edgy. Something with a bit of grit'



LOOKING OUT.



Oasis



POCKET GARDEN.

Soothing geometry

Seal



DINING ROOM.



HALLWAY.





Wellness hub for cats and dogs



Green products from waste matter go mainstream



Mag's special issue celebrates Filipino ingenuity





Colorful food servers for fiesta celebration

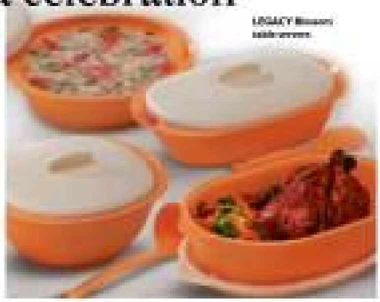
THIS SEASON OF FIESTAS and celebrations, showcase traditional fiesta food favorites in classic Tupperware food servers.



CRESCENDO bowls



LARGE modular rectangular food containers



LEGACY Blossom table servers



LIFESTYLE Home & Entertaining

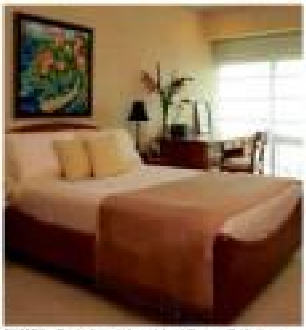
Warm, strong, elegant–the allure of wooden furniture

Philux started out with rattan; now, its products are made of narra, mahogany and radiana





Warm, strong, elegant–the allure of wooden furniture





Skilled work



New media

Popular products

Innovations

Appliance brand rolls out eco-friendly ovens, washing machines

How to conserve artworks at home



LECTURE at Picasso boutique serviced residences





WRONG way of storing paintings

Before

Basics

Location

Avoid strong lighting

Avoid temperature and humidity changes

Call for help



HOW to brush dust off a painting



RIGHT way of storing paintings

New taxis, same bad attitude

THE CONSUMER
Linda B. Bolido

Natural fly repellent

Feedback



LIFE IS BETTER HERE.
Xevera
PAMPANGA
GA SKY SUITES
GA TWIN TOWERS
ENCLAVE
CALL NOW!
927-8888
www.galifestyle.com
GA
GLOBE ASIATIQUE
Better Communities. Better Lives. Better by G.A.

LIFESTYLE Parenting





Children's Joy Foundation has taken care of thousands of poor, neglected and unwanted children since the late '80s

House of joy for the underprivileged

MORE THAN AN INSTITUTION that makes lives of disadvantaged children better, the Children's Joy Foundation (CJF) is a family.



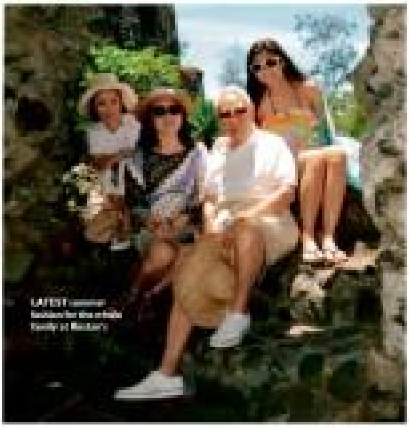












Summer essentials for family bonding

BARELY A MONTH TO GO before summer ends and still haven't had the chance to prepare for a bonding trip with the family? Don't fret. These summer items are all a family needs to ensure a fun-filled adventure. And best of all, one doesn't need to go out of town.

[illegible]





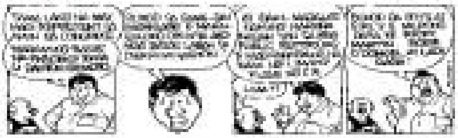
GARFIELD



A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY

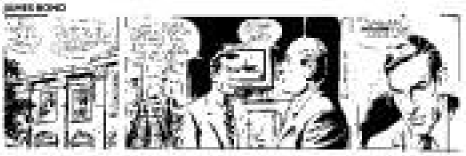


DICK TRACY





JAMES BOND



DIVINE COMEDY

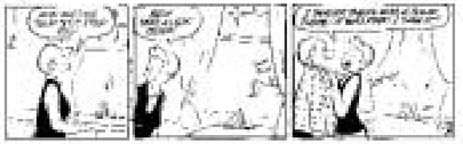


BABY BLUES

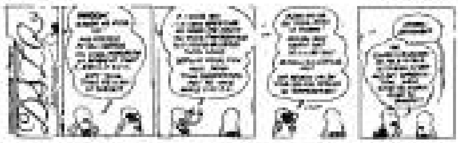


TULDOK





KIKO MACHINE



SHERMAN'S LAGOON



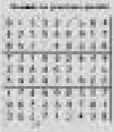
HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

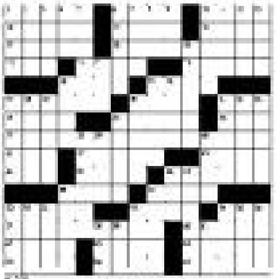
HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

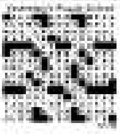
Conceptis Sudoku

					1	3	6	2
	3	1		6			4	
	5		8			1		
		4			5			
	1				6			
8			1	7		9		
6		2			3		8	1
1	7					5	9	
5						7		



CROSSWORD PUZZLE





New maternity line is practical, flattering, stylish



TWO-TONED cardigan with gold hardware. Basic tank top and banded shorts

PREGNANCY CLOTHES ARE no longer the unflattering garments of yesteryears. A couple of years ago the words "maternity" and "fashion" meant leggings, balloons and elasticized everything. Maternity fashion is practical, flattering and most of all stylish. Today's moms-to-be are looking for maternity wear that can make them look great and feel great throughout their pregnancy.

[illegible]



BLACK jersey jumpsuit



PRINTED shift dress



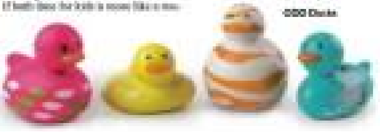
HALTER maxi dress

Make bath time fun for kids



Bug Pod

[illegible]



ODD Ducks

Summer tips for moms and kids

[illegible]

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor: Bayani San Diego Jr.

OVERHEARD

CORY MONTEITH, "GLEE'S" RESIDENT jock, Finn, would like to sing Bon Jovi's "You Give Love a Bad Name" on the hit show. It'd be fun, he says, like the "friendly competition" going on among the cast. "But in terms of the character story lines," Cory says, "I think a little bit of friendly competition is a good thing."



[illegible], PRIVATE PERSON
Freddie M. Garcia, hard-nosed judge on "Pilipinas Got Talent," says he's doing it to conquer his own fears, and that fellow jurors Kris Aquino and Ai-Ai delas Alas intimidate him. Inquirer Exclusive/E6.



Glamour wins at Star Awards

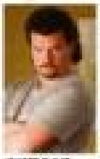
By Bayani San Diego Jr.

STARS REVVED UP THE glamour quotient at the 26th Star Awards for Movies held recently at the Henry Lee Irwin Theater of Ateneo de Manila University.



OPENING TODAY

CLICK!


"EASTBOUND and Down"

Comedy series

"EASTBOUND AND Down," a brand new half-hour HBO Original comedy series starring Danny McBride, premieres on May 8, 8 p.m. on HBO Signature. [illegible]

Final journey

[illegible]

You to Me Are Everything

[illegible]


MARIAN Rivera and Dingdong Dantes

The Bounty Hunter

[illegible]


GERARD Butler and Jennifer Aniston

A Nightmare on Elm Street

[illegible]

Furry Vengeance

[illegible]





CINEMA ACCESS: 395-5555
MOVIEWORLD
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

[illegible]

MANILA

[illegible]

METRO EAST

[illegible]

NOVALICHES

[illegible]

FORUM ROBINSONS

[illegible]



STA. ROSA

[illegible]

LIPA

[illegible]

DASMARIÑAS

[illegible]

STARMILLS

[illegible]

IMUS

[illegible]

ANGELES

[illegible]

TACLOBAN

[illegible]

DUMAGUETE

[illegible]

BACOLOD

[illegible]

ILOILO

[illegible]

GENSAN

[illegible]

ILOCOS NORTE

[illegible]



Osang: Daboy said goodbye to me

DOLLY WOOD



Dolly Anne Carvajal



ROSANNA Roces

Missing man

Delightful

First time

Congratulations

Coach Ipe





PINKY: Alcoholic?



KC: Songwriter



DONNA Villa, a true darling.

Album tour





HUGE REUNION PARTY

'Pilipinas Got Talent' judge in it to conquer own fear

ALL THAT THE NEWly reorganized TV5 is doing at the moment in making local television "more interesting," said Freddie M. Garcia, former ABS-CBN president and chief operating officer, better known to the public these days as a judge on "Pilipinas Got Talent."



FREDDIE M. GARCIA



Walkout King snubs Hunky Upstart onstage

Exchange deal

Repeat offender



CORY Monteith

Just desserts





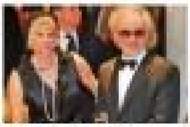
Consolation prize

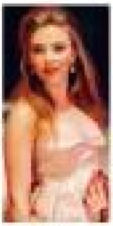
RUSHES

Backstage bonding

Cory Monteith's dream job







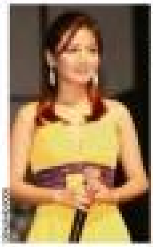


WILLIE with daughter Frida

2 in PGT finals







Glamour wins at Star Awards



